

"The purpose test"

Genesis 45:3-8

What is the purpose test? Understanding your destiny.

Five keys to help you discover and fulfill the purpose God has for you:

1. Believe you have a destiny (purpose)

"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be." Psalms 139:13-16

2. Understand that God is in control

"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:9

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28

"As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." Isaiah 55:10, 11

3. Discover your gift and your direction

Ask yourself three questions:

1. What has God gifted you to do?
2. What are you good at doing?
3. What excites you?

".....I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10

"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully." Romans 12:4-8

4. Your purpose gives direction – not specifics

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.” Psalms 119:105

#### 5. Set your course and be faithful

Principle: Faithfulness is the answer to all the tests that God will give you.

“Father, I acknowledge that you are a sovereign God. I praise you because you have ordered eternal and earthly purposes for me. I confess that I have not sought and have not done your purpose for my life; or I have forgotten the sense of destiny and purpose I once knew and felt. Forgive me for pursuing my goals without seeking your purpose. Show me the reasons I exist. Help me discover your purpose for my life, through the study of scripture and prayer to which I now pledge myself to do daily. Amen.”